



# MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

February 9, 2007

## *News from the Chief*

It is always a special time in the police department when we have the opportunity to congratulate and celebrate those among us who have excelled in their efforts to advance their law enforcement careers and assume new supervisory responsibilities. It is presently my intent to name one new captain, two new lieutenants and 25 new sergeants in the very near future. At the appropriate time, there will be a badge presentation ceremony for all of those assuming new ranks.

A new captain's position has been created to oversee the operation of the Metro Park Police. Under a memorandum of understanding recently signed by Metro Parks Director Roy Wilson and me, the Parks Department has agreed to reimburse the Police Department for the full cost of the captain, including salary, benefits and vehicle. The captain will continue to be a part of and will follow the applicable police department chain of command. The captain will also work closely with the Parks Director. While Metro Park officers will be subject to police department supervision, they will continue to be guided by, and subject to, the Civil Service rules currently applicable to Parks employees as regards personnel-related matters. Moreover, as provided by the Metro Charter, park officers may exercise law enforcement authority granted by special police commissions only while actually on-duty and while acting within their scope of employment. The jurisdiction for their law enforcement authority shall be limited to the area of parks, playgrounds, and other recreational areas.

Because of you, Nashville has a great police department. Citizens in neighborhoods throughout the city are strongly supportive of your efforts to keep them safe. Thank you for your dedication and untiring efforts to make a difference!

## **Happenings**

### **2007 POLAR BEAR PLUNGE TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS TENNESSEE SATURDAY, February 17, at Nashville Shores Trophies, Prizes, Food, and Fun!!!!**

To sign up or get more information, visit us at [www.police.nashville.org](http://www.police.nashville.org) and click on the Polar Bear icon.

The February 17th Polar Plunge site is up and running on Firstgiving. You will be able to create a personal fundraising page that will allow people to pledge and pay with their credit card. Go to [www.firstgiving.com/sotn](http://www.firstgiving.com/sotn) to start your site today. Be sure to check out Herb Kajihara's site and make a pledge! All proceeds go directly to Special Olympics Tennessee.

## **The Precinct News**

### **Hermitage**

Undercover officers keeping an eye on the Bamboo Garden restaurant at 2268 Lebanon Pike saw Eric Simon get out of a pickup truck driven by Teresa Hays and throw a large rock through the front glass window of the restaurant. When officers moved in, Simon jumped back into the pickup truck. Hays then rammed an undercover police car as the couple made their getaway. They drove to 1716 Lebanon Pike where they abandoned the truck and fled on foot. Detectives subsequently confirmed their identities and obtained the arrest warrants. They were involved in a series of Chinese restaurant burglaries. All three have been arrested.

**Berry McKnight** was arrested for an outstanding federal Project Safe Neighborhoods gun charge. He was initially stopped by Officer Ken Mahoney on University Court for not wearing a seat belt.

**Bike Unit** Officers made several arrests including armed robbery suspect **Davita Holt**. They also captured **Andre Claybrooks** who was out on bond for armed robbery. He is charged with aggravated domestic assault and felony possession of a weapon.

The **Bike Unit** also located **Kevin Dennis** who was wanted for an outstanding parole violation for murder. He has to serve the remainder of a 45-year sentence. Dennis was on an apartment lease at the J.C. Napier public housing development.

**Allen Jordan** and **Erica Holt** were also picked up by the **Bike Unit**. Jordan was wanted for an outstanding felony probation violation, and Holt was arrested for an FTB warrant.

The team effort continues between Patrol and Youth Services in combating underage drinking. Only two of 25 stores checked sold beer to the informant who just turned 18. This was the first time that she had worked in this capacity and she did a very good job.

**Flex Officers Doug Bell** and **James King** received information from the Joint Judicial Drug Task Force that a suspect had a large quantity of drugs in his vehicle. Officers Bell and King were able to locate the vehicle. They stopped the suspect after he drove through a red light at Central Pike and Old Hickory Boulevard.

The officers obtained verbal consent from the suspect to search the vehicle and seized 58 grams of powder cocaine, the suspect's 1999 Chevrolet Blazer, and \$488.00 cash.

## **South**

**Officer Andy Belew** and the **A-Flex Unit** located **Dana Ledbetter Frith**, one of South Precinct's Top 10 Wanted, at a motel on Elm Hill Pike. Frith had warrants for parole violation. She was also wanted for questioning in relation to a burglary on Brewer Drive. Officer Belew and the South A-Flex unit also located and arrested **Charles Edward Pinchon** for an outstanding child rape warrant.

**Officer Mark Pack** responded to a disorderly person call but discovered that a male Hispanic victim had been beaten and robbed of \$30.00 cash outside the Roadway Inn. A second victim attempted to intervene and was also beaten and had his jacket, shoes, and money stolen. Detective **Marvin Rivera** responded to the scene. Officer Pack observed a man who fit the description of one of the suspects in the parking lot of 915 Murfreesboro Road. He took him into custody and both victims identified him in a show up by Detective Rivera.

## **East**

Officers received a tip from North Precinct detectives who were investigating a robbery. The victim was held up at gun point while selling marijuana. There was some confusion about her actual address, but thanks to solid investigative work, officers were able to obtain a search warrant for the woman's correct address. Inside her apartment, officers seized more than a pound of marijuana, one ounce of cocaine, and \$7,000.00 cash.

It appears the woman intentionally gave police the wrong address in order to create a visible police presence near her real home, so the people who robbed her would not steal the rest of her drugs and money before she could retrieve them herself.

Officer Mickey Yentes saw a man in a muffler shop parking lot on Dickerson Pike wearing latex gloves and holding a flashlight. Officer Yentes approached the man who fled on foot. After a brief chase, Officer Yentes took Billy Pressley into custody. Pressley had three outstanding warrants and was charged with evading, resisting, and possession of burglary tools.

Residents had been complaining about a suspicious person dragging garbage cans through the alleys. Officer Paul Flournoy gave his private cell phone number to a home owner in case they saw the man again. Officer Flournoy was aware of the recent rash of burglaries and thefts in this area and his extra effort paid off. The home owner called Officer Flournoy who was able to quickly respond and take the suspect into custody. The suspect had a garbage can full of copper pipes and fixtures that matched items reported stolen. This suspect may also be linked to other thefts in the area.

While his partner was filling out a report, Field Training Officer Greg Lyons recognized Samuel Killebrew as he walked into the Discount Tobacco Store on Dickerson Pike. Officer Lyons arrested Killebrew for an outstanding parole violation warrant. He is also a suspect in several thefts and burglaries. Killebrew will serve at least 18 months for the parole violation and that is expected to have a significant impact on crime reduction in the area.

Detectives conducted a successful warrant sweep and captured eight offenders in one morning.

## **North**

Excellent team work led to the arrest of two juveniles charged with robbing Jack's Market. Officers Marcus Babbitt and Harold Burke and the North B Flex Team quickly responded to the call. Officer Babbitt relayed time sensitive information about the suspects and their direction of flight. The information Officer Babbitt provided to Flex officers enabled them to establish a good perimeter and capture one of the suspects. From that location, K9 Units led

officers to a residence where the second juvenile was hiding. The victims identified both suspects as the robbers.

North Precinct detectives charged a Nashville 18-year-old with five counts of aggravated robbery for pulling a gun, pepper spraying, and robbing five employees of four businesses, including two Asian restaurants.

Sedric Lamont Holt, of 127 University Court, surrendered himself at the North Precinct after learning that officers were on the streets looking for him. During an interview with detectives, Holt admitted to pepper spraying and robbing victims.

A cell phone found in the victim's recovered stolen car in the House of Choy case led to the identification of Holt as a suspect.

## **West**

B-Shift and Crime Suppression Unit officers executed a search warrant on Newton Street and arrested three suspects for a total of six felony charges and six misdemeanor charges. Officers seized four grams of crack, one gram of marijuana, drug paraphernalia, 39 weapons including eight handguns, 12 shotguns, 19 assault-style guns, and \$850.00 cash. Also seized were seven outside surveillance cameras attached to three different monitors inside the residence.

West Precinct's Crime Suppression Unit, Flex, and Patrol officers conducted an undercover drug buy when George Antonio Mends attempted to flee the scene in a 1990 Nissan Sentra and intentionally struck Officer Jack Crouch. Officer Crouch was treated and released from Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Mends, 24, of Jackson Street, was arrested and charged with evading arrest, possession of cocaine, possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell, driving on a suspended license, probation violation, and aggravated assault. Also arrested during the undercover drug buy were Emanuel Andrell Hamilton, 24, of 16th Avenue North, and Jeffrey Paul Sanders, 20, of Ireland Street. Hamilton was charged with resisting arrest, trespass, possession of cocaine, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell. Sanders was charged with possession of cocaine with intent to sell, trespass, resisting arrest, and evading arrest.

Mends' prior arrest charges include theft, evading arrest, unlawful possession of a weapon, and possession of a controlled substance. Hamilton's arrest history reflects charges of contempt of court, probation violation, possession of a controlled substance, vandalism, and assault. Sanders' arrest history includes charges of trespass, possession of a controlled substance, and failure to be booked.

## **Central**

Due to the cold weather, officers continue to conduct welfare checks on the homeless and offer them rides to shelters.

Detectives charged a 17-year-old with the robbery of a man who was leaving a downtown business.

The 31-year-old victim was in the doorway of the St. Cloud Corner building at 500 Church Street when a teenager he subsequently identified as Anthony Terrell Pirtle of Hermosa Drive pointed a pistol at him and demanded money. The victim handed over \$12.

The victim called police and said it appeared the robber fled into the public library at 615 Church Street. Central Precinct Officer Vincent Coates found Pirtle in the library and took him into custody. Pirtle was charged at Juvenile Court with aggravated robbery.

Members of the Central Precinct's Crime Suppression Unit assisted by members of the Special Operations Response Team arrested a convicted felon who was selling drugs while out on parole for murder.

Christopher Buckner, 28, shot and killed a man in a 1998 drug-related shooting. He served eight years of his 12-year sentence before his release in September 2006. Buckner was taken into custody without incident at his residence in the 2900 block of Jones Avenue. Buckner was believed to be armed and unwilling to go back to prison.

A fully-loaded .38 Caliber handgun was seized along with almost nine grams of crack cocaine, and over \$1,300.00 cash.

Buckner's parole has been revoked and he is being held in lieu of \$170,000 bond. He is charged with unlawful possession of a handgun by a felon, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of cocaine with intent to sell.

Information developed by Detective Steve Ray is credited with getting this dangerous repeat offender off the streets of Nashville.

## **Odd Fellow Award**

Outstanding police work by West Precinct Officer Robert Peterson that resulted in the arrest of a dangerous serial bank robber and ex-convict last March has now earned Peterson the Judge John L. Draper Joint Nashville Police Odd Fellow Award for the first half of 2006. Peterson received a \$500 cash award.

On March 18, 2006, Officer Peterson noticed that the driver of a gray Plymouth Acclaim traveling on Jo Johnston Avenue wasn't wearing a seatbelt. Peterson stopped the car and realized that the man behind the wheel was none other than Timothy Weakley, who, between January 5th and March 17th, robbed ten banks in various Nashville communities. Weakley was



a convicted bank robber who had already served hard federal time. Peterson took Weakley into custody without incident, bringing to an end an extensive effort by various Metro police components and the FBI's Violent Crimes Task Force to get Weakley off the streets.

For 47 years, Nashville's Odd Fellows Association has sponsored this award, which is given twice a year to an officer below the rank of lieutenant who makes an arrest of a person already wanted, or who makes a criminal case based on the original citing of a traffic law violator



**Pictured (l-r) are Chief Ronal Serpas, Officer Robert Peterson, and Odd Fellows Association member Patrick Wells**

### **Aggressive Driving Unit**

Officer Foster Hite was working a traffic stop on I-24 West at Harding Place when a man pulled over to tell him that his grandmother had been robbed. He told Officer Hite that the suspect was driving a white Ford Explorer with a temporary tag. Officer Hite was able to locate the vehicle exiting I-24 West onto Murfreesboro Road. He stopped the suspect and took him into custody.

The suspect has a lengthy criminal history and was charged with robbery and driving on a revoked driver's license.

## **Background and Recruiting**

By Lt. Michele Donegan

Below is a list of recruitment events scheduled for the next few months. Many of you belong to civic groups, schools, churches, and other outside organizations. With spring just around the corner, many organizations will be planning block parties, picnics, job fairs, career fairs, and health fairs. I encourage you to keep Recruitment in mind and contact our office if you are aware of an event that we could participate in. Remember – you are our number one recruitment tool!

PHONE: 862-7341

### **Recruiters**

Officer Greg Bisch  
Officer Calvin Graham  
Officer Gerald McShepard  
Officer Angie Page

### **Background Investigators**

Read Majors  
Gordon McGuire  
Mike Mitchell  
Grady Pinchon

### **Assistant**

Ms. Alice Murphy

## **RECRUITMENT 2007**

### **February 2007**

13	Nashville's Career Fair (State Fairgrounds)
23	IT Creswell Arts Career Day (rescheduled from 2/2 due to snow)

### **March 2007**

01	UT Martin Career Fair
07	Murray State Career Fair
15	Hunters Lane High School (Career Fairs)
16	Whites Creek High School (Alumni Association)
27	ACAP Job Fair (Fort Campbell, KY)
26, 27, 28	TSU Recruitment Sessions to College Classes

### **April 2007**

TBA	Recruitment Open House at the Training Academy
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For those of you who are in a position that require you to order business cards (M.P.D form 115), I would like to encourage you to choose "Join Our Department" for the reverse side of your card. (Choice #2) The back of your card would have the following information:

Join Our Department!

For Information

On How to Become a Metro Police Officer

Police Recruitment Unit

(615) 862-7341 or 1 888-638-7633

[www.police.nashville.org](http://www.police.nashville.org)

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Having this information on your business card is a great recruiting tool!

### **In Prayers:**

Officer Danita Marsh, North Precinct, as she continues her recovery.

Officer Joseph Haywood, East Precinct, as he continues his recovery.

Detective Rob Carrigan, Sex Crimes, as his four-year-old son continues chemotherapy treatments.

Ron Davis, former Youth Services detective, currently Williamson County District Attorney, as he recovers from surgery to treat thyroid cancer.

### **Condolences:**

Mrs. Deborah Hobbs, mother of Officer Misty Hobbs, East Precinct, passed away February 9.

Mr. James Summers, retired Sergeant, passed away February 5.

Mr. Victor Flournoy, brother of Officer Paul Flournoy, East Precinct, passed away February 3.

Mr. Charles Casey Jr., brother of retired Police Chief Joe Casey, passed away January 30.

Mr. Kenneth Hollingsworth, grandfather of Officer Kelly White, Fraud Unit, passed away January 29.

Mrs. Dorothy Gertrude Madden, aunt of Sergeant Toney Turner, Youth Services Division, passed away January 27.

Mrs. Francis Biggs, mother of Jeanne Leitch, Special Operations, passed away January 24.

Mr. Terry Elliot, husband of Field Operations' Daisy Buggs' niece, was killed while serving with the Marine Corps in Iraq.

Mrs. Annie Ruth Martin, grandmother of Doyle Price, Police Officer Trainee, passed away.

### **FYI:**

As Officer Danita Marsh continues to recover from her gunshot wounds, the 100 Club of Nashville has committed to help her regain some of life's basic choices by financing the purchase of accessible housing and a specially equipped vehicle. Persons wanting to make a tax deductible contribution to assist Officer Marsh are urged to make checks payable to the 100 Club of Nashville and include the Marsh name on the memo portion. One hundred percent of the money donated will go to the Marsh fund. Checks can be mailed to The Hundred Club of Nashville, P.O. Box 190428, Nashville, Tennessee, 37219-0428.

The Training Academy has issued "The Tactical Edge" to trainees for many years. We have always purchased new copies for each session so the trainees could use them for reference purposes while they were at the academy and could make notes, highlights, etc. Trainees were allowed to keep the books after graduation to reinforce their officer survival and patrol tactics skills once they became police officers.

As we began purchasing for Session 53, we discovered that the book is now out of print and the cost has increased dramatically. Our sources tell us that some discussions are underway for Calibre Press, the publisher, to resume printing. However, that does not help us for Session 53.

What Training is asking is for anyone who was issued a copy of the book that no longer needs it to please turn it in to the secretary's office at the precinct or the Training Academy. We will develop an internal process to track the books we get back so that there are enough copies to issue to trainees to accompany their DT/Confrontation Management training. Also, we will maintain copies that can be checked out to be used for refresher training, roll-call training, small unit training, etc.

Thanks in advance from the Academy Staff.

**COMPSTAT** on Friday, February 23, 2007, will be at Lipscomb University, located at 3901 Granny White Pike. This is an excellent opportunity for faculty and students at Lipscomb to have a better understanding of the COMPSTAT process and see what we do each week to reduce crime in Nashville. SDD will keep you updated as to the location of COMPSTAT on their campus (the starting time will be the same), along with other logistical issues (parking, etc.).

Police calendars for 2007 are on sale for \$10 each. The calendar features law enforcement officers from across the state including two of Metro Nashville's finest. Officers were photographed with Special Olympics athletes in sports clothes and in uniform. ALL proceeds go to the Special Olympics of Tennessee. Calendars can be purchased at the Field Operations Bureau office.

Metro Police annuals can still be ordered. Pre-ordering is available online at: <http://www.nashvillepolicehistory.com> Annuals will be in and distributed around the first of the year. Please see the Bicentennial Board for further information.